United Nations A/65/393

General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 September 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 27 (b)
Social development: social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Letter dated 23 September 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you information on the attitude towards life, morality and social values of youth in Uzbekistan (see annex).

I would highly appreciate it if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 27 (b).

(*Signed*) Murad **Askarov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan

10-55193 (E) 280910 280910

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 23 September 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Youth in Uzbekistan: attitude towards life, morality and social values

The Centre for the Study of Public Opinion *Ijtimoii fikr* carried out a sociological survey entitled "Youth in Uzbekistan: attitude towards life, morality and social values" in order to identify the priorities of young people.

The survey of public opinion convincingly showed that the defining socio-political feature of today's youth in Uzbekistan is their attitude towards independence as the highest value and their support for the course of national reforms undertaken by the President.

The results of youth surveys conducted since independence show young people to be highly educated. Their main focus is on obtaining good qualifications and employment. One in two respondents considered ongoing education to be necessary in order to earn a decent living.

More than 70 per cent of young respondents said that the most desirable form of education for them was higher education.

The careers most attractive to Uzbek youth include teaching and the economic, medical, engineering and legal professions.

Studies have shown that young people have quite a high assessment of their own abilities: most boys and girls are convinced that they will go to university. Most respondents also noted that they were able to finance their studies on a contractual basis.

It should be noted that young people, particularly students, have a high level of foreign language proficiency. For example, most students have a good knowledge of English, Arabic, French and German. The survey also found that most young people in Uzbekistan have good computer skills and that a significant proportion of them routinely uses the Internet.

The sociological survey showed that most young people were satisfied with their professions, earnings and working conditions. One in two youths was working towards career advancement.

The survey found that young people were very interested in enterprise and were focused on market structures and on holding high-level positions in the private sector. At the same time, they were ready to be creative, to show initiative and also to improve and assert themselves.

An important aspect of the sociological survey was the value which young people place on morality.

More than 90 per cent of young people commended the President's policy of developing spirituality and morality among the younger generation.

The main qualities that young respondents associated with morality were honesty, a good knowledge of their people's history, purity of soul, respect for national traditions, a strong sense of national pride, modesty, national and religious tolerance, and the total rejection of extremism.

The survey showed that young Uzbeks have deep feelings of love for and loyalty towards their homeland. Young persons associate patriotism with love for and selfless service to the homeland, and the willingness to defend it.

The spiritual and national identity of Uzbek youth has developed against the backdrop of the their shared conviction that a bright future lies ahead for the country. For example, an overwhelming majority of the respondents (96.5 per cent) are convinced that the hard-working Uzbek people will definitely build a modern State with a great future.

When responding to the survey, young Uzbeks described their legal literacy as good. They also considered that they had quite a good knowledge of the country's Constitution and the main legal codes. In the view of most respondents, education and personal development are factors which help to enhance the legal culture.

The overwhelming majority of Uzbek youth have bright and optimistic plans for the future. Most young people primarily see their future in terms of receiving a higher education, obtaining a good career, founding a stable family and establishing a small business.

The younger generation showed a high degree of social optimism in the survey. Uzbek boys and girls feel confident in the context of the social, political and economic stability in the country, and they speak highly of their own opportunities and prospects. Almost 80 per cent of young respondents expressed general satisfaction with their lives and a readiness to participate actively in implementing socio-economic and political reforms. They strongly support the State programme entitled "the Year of the Harmoniously Developed Generation", which provides enormous opportunities with respect to the implementation of plans in the future.

The sociological survey has convincingly shown that young people in Uzbekistan commend the efforts of the Head of State to care for the younger generation. These efforts can be seen, above all, in comprehensive opportunities for education, in State support for youth, in their increased standards of living and welfare, and in the development of sport.